

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 547

Introduced by Assembly Member Salas

February 20, 2013

An act to amend Sections 8421 and 8423 of the Education Code, relating to after school programs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 547, as introduced, Salas. 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens program.

Existing law, the 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens program, provides for the establishment of a high school after school program that consists of an academic assistance element and an enrichment element. Existing law specifies that the academic assistance element is required to include, but is not limited to, one of these specified activities: preparation for the high school exit examination, tutoring, homework assistance, or college preparation. In selecting grantees to participate in the program, existing law requires the State Department of Education to consider specified criteria, including, among others, the strength of the education element and alignment with state academic standards, and the strength of the enrichment element.

This bill would add career exploration to the list of possible activities that may satisfy the academic assistance element, and would require the department to consider the strength of career exploration, and other criteria the department may identify as critical to the provision of high quality after school programs, in selecting grantees to participate in the program. The bill would make technical changes by updating cross-references and would make other nonsubstantive changes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 8421 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:
3 8421. There is hereby established the 21st Century High School
4 After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens program. The
5 purpose of the program is to create incentives for establishing
6 locally driven after school enrichment programs that partner
7 schools and communities to provide academic support and safe,
8 constructive alternatives for high school pupils in the hours after
9 the regular schoolday, and that may assist pupils in passing the
10 high school exit examination required for high school graduation
11 pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 60850) of Part
12 33 of *Division 4 of Title 2* for public school programs.
13 (a) High school after school programs shall serve pupils in
14 grades 9 to 12, inclusive.
15 (b) A high school after school program established pursuant to
16 this article shall consist of the following two elements:
17 (1) An academic assistance element that shall include, but need
18 not be limited to, at least one of the following: preparation for the
19 high school exit examination, tutoring, *career exploration*,
20 homework assistance, or college preparation, including information
21 about the Cal Grant Program established pursuant to ~~Article 3~~
22 ~~Chapter 1.7~~ (commencing with Section ~~69530~~) ~~69430~~ of ~~Chapter~~
23 ~~2~~ of Part 42 of *Division 5 of Title 3*. The assistance shall be aligned
24 with the regular academic programs of the pupils.
25 (2) An enrichment element that may include, but need not be
26 limited to, community service, career and technical education, job
27 readiness, opportunities for mentoring and tutoring younger pupils,
28 service learning, arts, computer and technology training, physical
29 fitness, and recreation activities.
30 (c) A program shall operate for a minimum of 15 hours per
31 week.
32 (d) An entity may operate programs on one or multiple sites. If
33 an entity plans to operate programs at multiple sites, only one
34 application is required.

1 (e) A program may operate on a schoolsite or on another site
2 approved by the department during the grant application process.
3 A program located off school grounds shall not be approved unless
4 both of the following criteria are met:

5 (1) Safe transportation is available to transport participating
6 pupils if necessary.

7 (2) The program is at least as available and accessible as similar
8 programs conducted on schoolsites.

9 (f) Applicants for grants pursuant to this article shall ensure that
10 all of the following requirements are fulfilled, if applicable:

11 (1) The application includes a description of the activities that
12 will be available for pupils and lists the program hours.

13 (2) The application includes an estimate of the following:

14 (A) The number of pupils expected to attend the program on a
15 regular basis.

16 (B) The average hours of attendance per pupil.

17 (C) The percentage of pupils expected to attend the program
18 less than three days a week, three days a week, and more than three
19 days a week, for each quarter or semester during the grant period.

20 (3) The application documents the commitments of each partner
21 to operate a program at a location or locations that are safe and
22 accessible to participating pupils.

23 (4) The application certifies that pupils were involved in the
24 design of the program and describes the extent of that involvement.

25 (5) The application identifies federal, state, and local programs
26 that will be combined or coordinated with the high school after
27 school program for the most effective use of public resources, and
28 describes a plan for implementing the high school after school
29 program beyond federal grant funding.

30 (6) The application has been approved by the school district, or
31 the charter school governing ~~board~~ *body*, and the principal of each
32 participating school for each schoolsite or other site.

33 (7) The application includes a certification that the applicant
34 has complied with the requirement in subdivision (b) of Section
35 8422.

36 (8) The application includes a certification that each applicant
37 or partner in the application agrees to do all of the following:

38 (A) Assume responsibility for the quality of the program.

39 (B) Follow all fiscal reporting and auditing standards required
40 by the department.

(C) Provide the following information on participating pupils to the department:

(i) Schoolday attendance rates.

(ii) Pupil test scores from the Standardized Testing and Reporting Program established under Section 60640, reflecting achievement in the areas addressed by required program elements, if assessments have been established in that area.

(iii) Pupil achievement on the high school exit-exam examination as applicable.

(iv) Program attendance.

(D) Acknowledge that program evaluations will be based upon the criteria in Section 8427.

(9) Certify that the applicant has complied with all federal requirements in preparing and submitting the application.

(g) The department shall not establish minimum attendance requirements for individual pupils.

(h) It is the intent of the Legislature, that to the extent possible, the department require applicants to submit the information required by this section in a short and concise manner.

SEC. 2. Section 8423 of the Education Code is amended to read:

8423. (a) The department shall select grantees to participate in the 21st Century High School After School Safety and Enrichment for Teens program from among applicants that apply on forms and in a manner prescribed by the department. To the extent possible, the selection of applicants by the department shall result in an equitable distribution of grant awards to applicants in northern, southern, and central California, and in urban, suburban, and rural areas of the state.

(b) The department shall consider the following criteria in awarding grants:

(1) Strength of the educational element and alignment with state academic standards, preparation for the high school exit examination, and other academic interventions.

(2) Strength of the enrichment element.

(3) *Strength of career exploration.*

~~(3)~~

(4) Evidence of community collaboration, including demonstrated support of the principal and staff from participating schools.

1 ~~(4)~~

2 (5) A description of the manner in which programs will provide
3 a safe physical and emotional environment and opportunities for
4 relationship building, and promote active pupil engagement.

5 ~~(5)~~

6 (6) A description of the manner in which the program design
7 will be periodically reexamined in order to maintain strong pupil
8 interest.

9 ~~(6)~~

10 (7) A description of plans to attract pupils, particularly pupils
11 considered at risk or in need of academic support, on a regular
12 basis.

13 (8) *Other criteria that the department may identify as critical*
14 *to the provision of high quality after school programs.*

15 (c) The application shall certify all of the following:

16 (1) Completion of an assessment of pupils' preferences for
17 program activities.

18 (2) Access to, and availability of, computers and technology.

19 (3) Inclusion of a nutritional snack and a physical activity
20 element.

21 (4) That the program will meet all of the evaluation
22 requirements.

23 (5) Fiscal accountability.